

LEUCTRA STEPHENS, 1835 (INSECTA, PLECOPTERA): PROPOSED
DESIGNATION OF A TYPE-SPECIES UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS.
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By P. Brinck (Zoological Institute, Lund) and
J. Illies (Hydrobiologische Anstalt, Plön)

The object of the present application is to request the use of the plenary powers to stabilize the usage of the generic name *Leuctra*, as understood for over a century, by designating for that genus a type-species.

2. The generic name *Leuctra* was first used by Stephens, 1835 (*Ill. Brit. Ent.* 6 : 144) as a subgenus of *Nemoura*, including a few species (e.g. *N. geniculata* Stephens, 1835 and *N. fusciventris* Stephens, 1835). Stephens, however, did not designate a type-species.

Westwood, 1838 (*Introd. mod. Classif. Ins.*, Syn. Gen. Brit. Ins. : 47) selected *Leuctra geniculata* (Stephens, 1835) as the type-species of the genus *Leuctra*.

3. In 1841, Pictet (*Hist. nat. Ins. Nevropt.*, Fam. Perlidae: 369) stated that within the genus *Leuctra* the species *L. geniculata* (Stephens) holds a unique position. In a revision of the genus *Leuctra*, Mosely 1932 (*Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (10) 10 : 2) wrote: "Had not Westwood selected *geniculata* as the genotype, I should seriously have considered its removal to another genus, as hinted at by Pictet. The alternative, to erect a new genus for all the other species, seems more revolutionary than the circumstances warrant, but it is unfortunate that not a single one of the other species in the genus should conform to the characters of the genotype".

4. As a matter of fact among the 108 species of the genus *Leuctra* hitherto known, 107 form a closely related group which is fundamentally different from *L. geniculata* (Stephens). The latter species has to be placed in a separate genus.

5. If *L. geniculata* is accepted as type-species of the genus *Leuctra*, a new genus must be erected for the remaining 107 species which have until now been included in *Leuctra*. A genus well known for more than a century as an important component in biological productivity of running water would become a monospecific unit, whilst more than a hundred species would have to change their generic name. This would inevitably lead to great confusion.

6. In order to avoid such a confusion *Phryganea fusca* Linnaeus, 1758, is proposed as the type-species of the genus *Leuctra*.

7. The species *Phryganea fusca* Linnaeus, 1758, was discussed by Brinck 1949 (*Stud. Swed. Stoneflies, Opusc. Ent.*, Suppl. 11 : 8-9) and its identity with *Nemoura (Leuctra) fusciventris* Stephens, 1835, was settled. The original material of Linnaeus is lost.

According to Brinck the material used for the description was most probably collected in central Sweden, Dalecarlia (Dalarna), near Falun, in 1743, between the 17th of August and the first days of November. In order to fix the nomenclatorial position of the species a male from that region has to be designated as the neotype.

Consequently, a male from the collections of the Entomological Museum of the University of Lund (Sweden) will be selected as the neotype. It is labelled: "*Leuctra fusca* L. Schweden, Dalarna, Falun, Sept. 1919, leg. Klefbeck, NEOTYPUS design. P. Brinck and J. Illies 1964." (A female of the same lot kept together with the male, is considered the neoallotype). The neotype corresponds to the description and the figures in Brinck 1962 (*Svensk Insektf.* **15**, Plecoptera, p. 64, fig. 34).

8. The International Commission is therefore requested:

- (1) to use its plenary power to set aside the selection of *L. geniculata* Stephens as type-species for the genus *Leuctra* Stephens, 1835, made by Westwood 1840, and having done so, to designate as type-species for that genus *Phryganea fusca* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 549) = *Leuctra fusciventris* Stephens, 1835 (syn. fide Brinck 1949, *Opusc. Ent.*, Suppl. **11** : 12);
- (2) to place the generic name *Leuctra* Stephens, 1835 (gender : feminine), type-species by designation under the plenary powers in (1) above *Phryganea fusca* Linnaeus, 1758, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name *fusca* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Phryganea fusca*, type-species of *Leuctra* Stephens, 1835, on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
- (4) to place the family-group name LEUCTRIDAE Klapálek, 1905 (type-genus *Leuctra* Stephens, 1835), on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology.